been done on the basis of rate of economic growth or development.

(c) to (e) The Scheme of Backward Districts/Area Fund, is still to be formulated and approved.

Loans to unemployed graduates

†2828. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the banks are providing loans to the unemployed graduates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for self-employment; and

(b) if so, the number of youths belonging to SC/ST category who were provided bank loans during the last three years, State-wise and Bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) the information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Representations against service tax

2829. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from various sections of industry/society regarding imposition of service tax, if so, the details in this regard;

(b) whether it is also a fact that service tax is largely considered as tax on the inefficiency etc., of service rendered;

(c) whether Government propose to review the levy of service tax; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No Madam. There have been some

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

representations against levy in case of some services, but there has been no representation against Service Tax *per se*.

(b) and (c) No, Madam.

(d) Services contribute to more than 50% of GDP. Hence if no tax is levied on them this sector would not contribute anything to the exchequer, thereby creating unnecessary pressure on the other sectors of economy. Internationally also Service are subjected to tax. In view of the reasons as stated above and recommendations made by various expert Committees, Service Tax has been levied and there is no proposal to review the same.

Fake PAN cards

2830. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police Crime Branch has recently arrested a paan seller for allegedly making and selling fake Permanent Account Number (PAN) cards by tampering with the data;

(b) whether a gang of cyber manipulations producing and dealing in fake PAN cards has been busted; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and its *modus operandi*?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. On a complaint filed by the Income Tax Department, the Crime Branch of Delhi Police arrested one Vinod Kumar, a paan seller, for acting as a conduit for preparing fake PAN cards.

(b) and (c) An instance of tampering with data and issuing fake PAN cards by some private persons by unauthorizedly obtaining password of some Assessing Officers at Delhi came to the notice of the Income Tax Department in December, 2004. Four persons involved in this crime have also been arrested.